DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Supplemental Feeding Ban in Franklin, Madison and Tensas Parishes

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953.1 and under the authority of R.S. 56:115 and 116, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission and the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries hereby adopt the following emergency rule:

On February 2, 2022, the Louisiana Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory at LSU detected Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in a sample submitted by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) from a hunter-harvested adult buck in Tensas Parish. A sample has been submitted to the National Veterinary Services Laboratory to confirm the result.

In response to receiving a preliminary positive CWD test result on a deer harvested in Louisiana, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission took action on February 3, 2022 to direct LDWF to implement its CWD Management Plan to monitor and curb the spread of CWD in Louisiana.

Therefore, the export of any cervid carcass or part of a cervid carcass originating within Franklin, Madison, and Tensas Parishes is prohibited, except for: meat that is cut and wrapped; meat that has been boned out; quarters or other portions of meat with no part of the spinal column or head attached, antlers, clean skull plates with antlers, cleaned skulls without tissue attached, capes, tanned hides, finished taxidermy mounts and cleaned cervid teeth.

Beginning Monday, February 7, 2022, all supplemental feeding, including mineral or salt licks, is prohibited in Franklin, Madison and Tensas Parishes. The purpose of this feeding ban is to reduce the potential for the spread of CWD in Louisiana by reducing the risk of exposure when deer are concentrated around feeding sites. The use of approved bait not normally ingested

by deer for feral hog trapping will still be allowed. All bait must be placed and contained within the trap itself. Backyard bird feeders are also exempt from this supplemental feeding prohibition.

This Declaration of Emergency shall become effective February 4, 2022, and will remain in effect for the maximum period allowed under the Administrative Procedure Act or until rescinded or modified by the Secretary. The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this Declaration of Emergency, and to modify, rescind, or extend it upon notification of the Chairman of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

Jack Montoucet

Secretary

February 4, 2022